

Next GARS meeting on
December 10th for Holiday Party.

The GARzette

The official newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
Dec 2010 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 19, Issue 12



December Meeting
December 10th
6:30PM Meet
7:00PM Eat (*by reservation only*)
7:30PM Meeting

A Note About The December Meeting

The GARS Holiday Party, December 10th, is the GARS December meeting. If you do not have reservations for dinner, you are still welcome and encouraged to attend the business part of the meeting. **To attend the meeting without eating, please plan to attend at 7:30PM.**

From the President:

After a few weeks and two illnesses, I am quite happy to be back among the living. Once again I am radio active! Luckily, I got better just in time to attend Alford Memorial's Stone Mountain Hamfest at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds. GARS had a great showing indoors, outdoors, and I am pleased that some of our members helped the Alford club to pull off their top-notch hamfest.

We have a few events coming up in December. First, Ham Radio Outlet, aka HRO, aka "The Candy Store" is expanding their showroom. To celebrate and introduce their new show-

room they are having a grand reopening. It sounds like it is going to be a big event with several local clubs in attendance. GARS will have a table there and I hope lots of members will come and add to the festive atmosphere.

The other event for GARS in December is our Holiday party. It looks like we have attained our goal of increasing our attendance this year (the more the merrier). We plan to do some new, fun things this year. I hope you and your family will attend.

Since it is December, I tend to think about things that happened throughout the year. GARS has thrived through many changes this year. We had an almost completely new group of officers, a new location for our beloved Field Day, and probably a few other things to challenge us this year. Regardless, GARS endures and we have had a fantastic year. We did a great job of activating Greene county for the Georgia QSO party, had an outstanding TechFest despite an ice storm, and another train of

exceptional meetings and programs. I could go on and on, but I don't want to bore you, and hopefully you already participated and enjoyed these events. Let me just say that GARS is a great, enduring organization and I am both fortunate and proud to be associated with it and its magnificent members.

Here is to a even better 2011 for you, your family, and our extended family known as the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.

73,Kyle W4KDA

This is the way to spend an Anniversary!

This trip first and foremost was a anniversary trip for my XYL Stacy and I. She was kind enough to let me bring some equipment and operate from the Cabin.

This trip was from Thursday November 18th through Sunday November the 19th. Upon arrival, it was already dark and I was eager to get my wires and equipment setup. So... needless to say, I trekked through briars and up the side up a massive hill to get my wires up. Success and I am on the air!

I used 2 antennas on a older Kenwood antenna tuner. A 300ft random wire, which surprisingly worked amazing on 40 and 80! I also ran a Falcon 40-10 shorty Windom style dipole in a inverted V configuration. It tuned great on 80-20 and I really did not go much higher then 20 meters while at the cabin.

My first contact after getting everything set up was with my friends on 3916. (The Freewheelers) I tried out 20 watts first off on the random wire and got great reports, so I cranked it down to 5 watts and no-body even noticed!

I wanted to get another radio check, from my neighbor back home in Dacula, (W4IMD) Peter. So I met him on 40 meter at 9 - 10am on Friday and ran QRP. He was getting me 20 over back home! Amazing! Excited with these results I was set to go for ARRL Sweepstakes QRP! I leisurely worked it. Few hours here and a few hours there, but all, I worked 59 sections QRP! Everyone I had a QSO with was surprised I was QRP. Height was for sure on my side. Total score was 18998 with a QSO with W1AW and a QSO into the Virgin Islands.

This has sparked a renewed interest in contesting and a whole new world of QRP to me!



73's to all!-

Scott Brown KD4YDD



GQP 50th Anniversary APRIL 9 & 10 2011

Georgia QSO Party

Annually, the second full weekend of April

There are two operating periods:

1800Z Saturday until 0359Z Sunday

1400Z to 2359Z on Sunday





HAMJAM 2010



Presented by
North Fulton Amateur Radio League
Southeastern DX Club

Saturday, November 13, 2010 9:00am -- 12:30pm

Needless to say, *HamJam 2010* was a great success. There were several GARS members in attendance, and we were recognized as one of the active Atlanta radio clubs. Photos and presentations available at <http://hamjam.nfarl.org/>



TechFest 2011

January 8, 2011, Lawrenceville, GA
sponsored by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Morse Code Is Not Just On The Radio... contributed by Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN

Even though Morse code has been used extensively on radio and Naval signal lamps, it pops it in some unusual places such as the Boston Red Sox's home field Fenway Park. The initials of former team owners Thomas Austin Yawkey (TAY) and Jean Remington Yawkey (JRY) who owned the Red Sox from 1933-93 are displayed vertically down the two center divider columns of the manual scoreboard.

The Capitol Records Tower is one of the most distinctive landmarks in Hollywood, California. The 13-story earthquake-resistant tower, designed by Welton Becket, was the world's first circular office building, and is home to several recording studios.



The blinking light atop the tower spells out the phrase "Hollywood" in Morse code, and has done so since the building's opening in 1956. This was an idea of Capitol's then president, Alan Livingston, who wanted to subtly advertise Capitol's status as the first record label with a base on the west coast. The switch activating the light was thrown by Lyla Morse, Samuel Morse's granddaughter. In 1992 it was changed to read "Capitol 50" in honor of the label's fiftieth anniversary. It has since returned to spelling "Hollywood".

Anyone know what speed the tower sends? Next time you're in Hollywood be sure to check it out.

So, in addition to your ears, keep your eyes open. You never know where you might find Samuel Morse's creation.



**Andrea Hartlage and her dad Scott
KG4IUM and KF4PWI sharing a moment
together at Field Day.**



Terry Webb, NOTW on a 14 county GQP adventure.

**T'was the night
before Christmas,...**

And all through two-meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses,
Took their HTs to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged
by a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
and, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam -
A flying sleigh, with an
Eight element beam,

And a little old driver
who looked slightly mean.
So I thought for a moment,
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa
The Santa of Hams.
On a mission, this Christmas
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs
For a start.

He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth, till
The station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,
Re-soldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes
In my linear amp...

(Never worked right before --
Now it works like a champ).

A new, low-pass filter
Cleaned up the TV,
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer
That would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box,
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?!"
(If he thought I'd been bad
it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station!
How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those hours
that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly
Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.

I should have been happy,
It was my call he sent,
But the cards and the postage
Will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station,
And the pile-up was big,
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final
came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX."

© 1996 Gary Pearce KN4AQ



**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in December:
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS**

Susan Swiderski AF4FO
Jack Perry K6JLP
John Hughes KA4ATX
David Adcock KA4KKF
Rob Milby KD4MZU
Bill Rabun KE4GUM
Amy Woodrick KE4IKF
Thomas Whalen KE4UXW
Eriks Zusmanis KI4TBC
Ralph Pickwick KJ4CNC
Terry Buhite KJ4HYY
John Harmon N4JCH
Joel Barrett W4JOL
Norman Schklar WA4ZXV
Steven Back WB2OGY

GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Check the [website](#) for location.
- Every Monday at 8 p.m.: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater.
- Every Wednesday at 9 p.m.: GARS 6-meter net on the GARS 6-meter repeater.
- Every Saturday at 7:30 a.m.: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Coral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville.

Meeting Minutes

GARS General Meeting November 9, 2010

1. Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Introductions of first time visitors and others present were made.
3. Business:
Treasurer's Report - Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC, reported the following:
CD balance \$6,238.38
Money Market balance \$2,466.81
Checking Account balance \$2,484.35
Total \$11,189.54
4. Committee Reports:
Membership – Dave Bruse, W4DTR, reported the following:
Robert Smith, WA4VTY, voted in as new member
Eriks Zusmanis, KI4TBC, voted in as new member
Repeater – Eddie Foust, WD4JEM, reported the following:
Goshem Springs repeater installation has not begun yet.
GARS has acquired the 147.225 MHz 2 meter repeater in Snellville.
5. Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, announced Techfest 2011 will be on January 9 2011 from 10am to 2 pm. Demonstrations will include Packet, FLDIGI, the Gwinnett ARES Trailer and many more. There will be a boneyard from 8am to 12pm.
6. The program was the Massive Home Brew Show and Tell. There were many interesting projects demonstrated.
7. Break
8. Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced the Holiday Party will be on December 10th. The price will be \$10 per person. Reservations can be made via the GARS website. Prizes will include 4 HRO Gift Certificates.
9. Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced the HRO Grand Reopening on Dec 4th.
10. Amy Woodrick, KE4IKF, announced that help will be needed with the Dog Show on February 4, 5 & 6.
11. Jeff
12. There will be no December meeting.
13. Prize drawing.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Hal Collier, W4IGE, Secretary

Alford Memorial hamfest well attended by GARS and Gwinnett ARES members. We manned two sets of tables one inside and one out plus the ARES mobile communications vehicle. All were successful at letting the Amateur Radio community know that GARS and Gwinnett ARES are alive and well. We met lots of friends and even sold off some valuable equipment. It's great to have a hamfest in our own back yard! Several members were instrumental in the overall success of the hamfest. Special thanks to Ken Dalton and Scott Hartlage for operating the youth lounge.



These and more photos available here:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/mark_conroy/sets/72157625332712672/

Editor's note:

We need your articles about GARS and Amateur Radio for our Special TechFest issue of the GARZette. Deadline for the January GARZette is December 22.

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You

If you are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the St. Marguerite D'Youville Catholic Church, 85 Gloster Rd. NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044.
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- o Camping
- o Hiking
- o Horse Back Riding
- o Shooting Sports

• Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of amateur radio.

• For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY
Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman
Phone: 770-712-9069
Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Jeff Lee, AF4JL
Venture Crew 73 Advisor
Phone: 678-475-3165
Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org

GARS officers and committee chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA
President

Earl Whatley, AF4FG
Vice President

Hal Collier, W4IGE
Secretary

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC
Treasurer, Apparel Manager

Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO
Program Manager

Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Membership Chairman
VE Team

David Adcock, KA4KKF
Webmaster, Field Day Chairman

Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ
Public Information Officer

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV
TechFest Chairman

Ray Bailey, N4GYN
GARzette Editor

Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
W4GR Trustee

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM
Repeater Chairman

Mike Weathers, ND4V
WAS-Checker

Joel Barrett, W4JOL
Net Manager

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI
Technical Advisor

GARS communication system

70 Cm Repeater
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

D-Star
WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

GARS NOVEMBER HOME BREW SHOW AND TELL



Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org.

First Saturday, Even Months

9 a.m.

EOC Building

Butch Nitz, AF4FS

(770) 968-8780

First Wednesday

7 p.m.

ARRL/VEC

Roberts School

4681 School Street, Acworth

Jodi Escher AG4BK

(770) 387-1591

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC

8:30 a.m.

Stone Mountain Methodist Church

5312 West Mountain St.

Stone Mountain

Bob Varone, W4ETN

(770) 978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC

9 a.m.

Marietta First United Meth. Church

Room 305,

56 Whitlock Ave.

Marietta

David Still, WB4RRD

(707) 973-2566

Third Sunday

W5YI VEC

3-5 p.m.

Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge

465 S. Perry St.

Lawrenceville, GA 30044

(770) 963-5721

(cont. next column)

Ham exam results for Sunday, November 20.

We had 10 VE's present as follows:

Frank Sauciunas KF4TQV

David Bruse W4DTR

Royce Stovall KD4EXY

Steven Back WB2OGY

Karen Prescott KJ4VQI

Laurence Whited WB4FGF

John Kludt K7SYS

Bill Cherepy WB4WTN

Mark Fehlig WA6NGC

Brian Page N4TRB

We had 3 people take their exams today. Test results: 3 new Technicians 73, Frank Sauciunas, KF4TQV kf4tqv@charter.net

For the year 2010, we had administered 36 ham exams at the Lawrenceville Lodge building. Out of 36 exams administered, 30 passed and had earned a new license or upgrade as follows: Technician = 16 General = 8 Extra = 6

Special thanks to all the VE's that make these exam sessions possible. The next Ham Exam Session will be at the GARS Tech Fest on Saturday, January 8 followed by the regular Ham Exam Session on Sunday, January 16.

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7 p.m.

United Way Service Center

6279 Fairburn Rd.

Douglasville

Fourth Sunday

2:30 p.m. Georgia Tech

VanLeer Elec. Building Rm.

W218 77 Atlantic Dr.

See www.w4aql.com

Alexander G. Carver

(404) 894-2936

acarver@ece.gatech.edu

Metro Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC

Southern Polytechnic

State University

Meeting begins at 7:30 PM

Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ

1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta

Meeting is at 7:30 PM

Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library

Meeting is at 6:30 PM

Talk In - 147.225(+)

PL 123.0

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218

Van Leer Electrical

Engineering Bldg.

Georgia Tech Campus

Meeting at 7:00 PM

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Annistown Road Baptist Church

Intersection of Annistown

Rd & Spain Rd

Stone Mountain

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Meeting at 7:30 PM

Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club

Wieuca Baptist Church on

Peachtree Rd/Wieuca,

at 10:00 AM

Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio

League

Masonic Lodge

194 Milton Avenue

Alpharetta, Georgia

meeting at 7:30 PM

Talk In - 145.47(-)

**GARS
APPAREL ORDER FORM**

NAME:	PHONE #
CALL:	(To avoid errors, please PRINT legibly)
NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED:	
CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED:	
ITEM	SIZE QUANTITY PRICE TOTAL
T-SHIRT	
Red	WITHOUT name & call \$20.00
White	WITHOUT name & call \$20.00
\$20.00	
Red	WITH name & call \$20.00
White	WITH name & call \$20.00
GOLF SHIRT -- WITHOUT name & call	
Red	\$24.00
White	\$24.00
GOLF SHIRT -- WITH name & call	
Red	\$28.00
White	\$28.00
SWEATSHIRT	
Red	WITHOUT name & call \$30.00
White	WITHOUT name & call \$30.00
\$30.00	
Red	WITH name & call \$30.00
White	WITH name & call \$30.00
LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY	
	WITHOUT name & call \$31.00
	WITH name & call \$35.00
HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY	
	WITHOUT name & call \$41.00
	WITH name & call \$45.00
GARS BADGE --	WITH name & call \$9.00
HAT -- WITHOUT name & call	
Red	\$9.00
White	\$9.00
HAT -- WITH name & call	
Red	\$14.00
White	\$14.00

TOTAL ORDER PRICE:

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to
Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC or mail to:

GARS, P.O. Box 88, Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items.

What's new on the WEB SITE?

The web site now features an upload and download section. Any file (amateur radio related) that you would like to share with the web site, you may post.

The file size limit is 6MB.
You should notice a change to the user menu. It will change when you log in to give you more options.

Are you using the web site to renew your membership?
Do you get the GARZETTE from the web site?

73,
David
KA4KKF



GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 88
LILBURN, GA 30048



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- ☐ NEW MEMBER
☐ RENEWAL

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (mm/dd/yyyy) ARRL Member (circle one): Yes No Life

Interests: _____

Type of Membership

- ☐ Individual \$30.00 annually
☐ Student \$15.00 annually
☐ Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)
☐ Family ** \$35.00 annually

*** Available for family members residing at the same address*

Optional Contributions

Repeater Fund: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

Additional Family Members **

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (mm/dd/yyyy) ARRL Member (circle one): Yes No Life

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (mm/dd/yyyy) ARRL Member (circle one): Yes No Life

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY:

App Received: ____/____/____

Amount Received: \$ _____

Member Approved: ____/____/____

Old Exp Date: ____/____/____

☐ Cash Check #: _____

☐ Recorded In Membership Database

New Exp Date: ____/____/____



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and dedication. Not every agent is willing
to make that commitment. Call me for when
you or your friends and family are ready to
make a move

References available upon request.

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Manager
KJ4VO

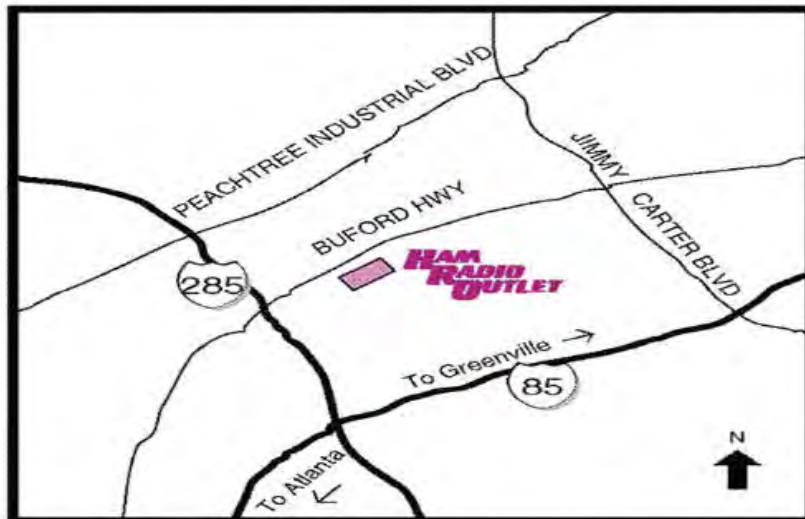
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e-mail: atlanta@hamradio.com
hours: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

John, KI4LMA
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Jim, N1ABM

David, AI4XL
Josh, W4JDH

Tom, KB4HQA
Brian, WD4DX



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Japan Radio Corp.
Premier
ADI
Yaesu
Alpha Delta
Arrow
Butternut
Create
Kenwood
Tarheel
Heil
West Mountain

Cushcraft
Diamond
Force 12
Hustler
Hy-Gain (Telex)
KLM
Larsen
M2
Valor
Van Gorden
MFJ
Ameritron
Comet